Production and consumption of oilseeds

†1043. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the exact gap between gross production and consumption of oilseeds in the country and details of the steps being taken to bridge this gap;

(b) whether Government propose to stop import of edible oil with a view to encourage domestic oilseed growers; and

(c) if not, the quantity of edible oil proposed to be imported during this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) The gap between production and consumption of oilseeds may be seen in terms of availability of edible oils through domestic production plus imports. According to advance estimates of oilseeds production, the production of oilseeds in the country is estimated at 25.0 million tonnes during 2003-04, which works out to around 7 million tonnes of edible oils. The import of edible oils during 2003-04 (April-February) has been 4.93 million tonnes. Thus, the total consumption of edible oils in the country works out to around 12 million tonnes. This in turn, implies a gap of 5 million tonnes of edible oils between domestic availability and consumption requirements. In terms of oilseeds, this works out to a gap of around 18 million tones.

(b) and (c) In order to raise production and productivity of oilseeds/ edible oils, thereby making the country self-sufficient in production of oilseeds/edible oils, the Government of India constituted the Technology Mission on Oilseeds in 1986. As a result of concerted efforts by the Technology Mission on Oilseesds, production increased from 10.83 million tonnes in 1985-86 to 24.75 million tonnes in 1998-99. The subsequent decline to 15.06 million tonnes in oilseeds production during 2002-03 reflected the impact of severe drought, which affected several States in the country. However, this has been reversed in 2003-04, which witnessed

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

increase in production of oilseeds to 25.01 million tonnes. While efforts are being intensified to raise production and productivity of oilseeds, the gap between domestic production and consumption requirement will be met through imports of edible oils.

Fishing harbour at Malpe, Karnataka

1044. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had accorded approval for construction of the 2nd stage of the fishing harbour at Malpe, Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the State Government intimated revised estimates of the project and sought Centre's approval for the same; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto and the present status with regard to release of its share towards the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Union Government, in February 1996, had accorded approval to the proposal of Government of Karnataka for construction of Stage-II fishing harbour at Malpe at a total cost of Rs. 1196.70 lakhs under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS). The entire Central share to the tune of 50% amounting to Rs. 598.35 lakhs has been released to the State Government by September, 1999.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Government of Karnataka has submitted Revised Cost proposal for construction of Malpe Stage-II fishing harbour with a cost escalation upwardly from Rs. 1196.70 lakhs to Rs. 2160 lakhs. The proposal received in this regard from the State Government *vide* their letter dated 29.6.2004 has been re-examined in light of the provisions of the CSS and the State Government has been requested to submit a detailed revised project report addressing relevant aspects for such cost escalation.

MSP for Paddy

1045. SHRIMATI JAMANA DEVI BARUPAL:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have started the process for fixing the minimum support price for paddy for 2004-05 by soliciting comments from the States